

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Block Island School

January 30, 2014

6:00 p.m.

The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Thursday, January 30, 2014, in the media center of the Block Island School. Chair William Padien called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The following members were present: Elizabeth Connor, Patricia Doyle, Ann Hall, William Padien, and Christopher Willi. Robert Hicks was also in attendance.

2014-2015 Budget Work Session

Mr. Hicks submitted a summary page of revenue and expenses that was adjusted earlier today and includes one teacher retirement. He has been trying to reduce the budget by approximately \$40,000 so the appropriation from the town would increase by only four percent. The net reduction of \$18,853 includes an increase of \$4000 in Medicare; a decrease of \$799 in state aid; a decrease of \$8000 in equipment; a reduction of \$10,350 in school committee stipends; an increase of \$1,396 in coaching stipends; a reduction of \$698 in stipends; and an increase of \$2,000 in workers' comp. With one teacher retiring at the end of this year there is a net savings of \$19,684 when the cost of a replacement teacher is included. The request to the town is still over four percent, but now a reduction of \$1,133 is needed.

Mr. Hicks stated that the issue of increasing substitute pay has been raised by several parties. If the daily rate of pay is increased by \$10 it would add \$1,938 (including FICA) to the budget. This would be a deduction from the savings listed above.

Jill Seppa, representing the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Task Force, reported that the Task Force originally requested \$3,000 be placed in the school's budget to help with the Student Assistance Counselor's salary. However, the Task Force did not feel it should ask for the full amount when the counselor does other work for them outside of the school. It is hoped that through fund raising efforts the counselor's lost hours at the school can be restored.

With the reduction of \$2000 from the SAC position and the elimination of the School Committee stipends (\$1150) the appropriation from the town is under four percent. This, of course, is without definite health care numbers and teacher negotiations still to be completed.

Executive Session

A motion (Padien, Connor) at 6:52 p.m. to go into executive session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-4, 5(a)(2) for contract negotiations carried with a vote of 5-0.

Open Session

A motion (Padien, Connor) at 7:19 p.m. to return to open session carried with a vote of 4-0 with Patricia Doyle no longer in attendance.

A motion (Padien, Connor) to seal the executive session minutes carried with a vote of 4-0.

Adjournment

A motion (Padien, Connor) at 7:19 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 4-0.

Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk

Date approved: February 10, 2014